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 The finest driving rigs in the State are to be found at my stable on Railroad Street. Prompt service and reasonable rates. J. CHARRON, Proprietor.

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 Shaving and Hair-Cutting done in the latest style, and to the satisfaction of all. Shop near corner of Michigan Avenue and Railroad Street. Dec. 1891.

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 Fine timber lands looked after. Correct estimates given. Trespasses estimated and collected. Surveying done in all its branches. A223

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STATE CAPITAL GOSSIP.

GATHERED IN AND ABOUT LEGISLATIVE HALLS.

Minor and Important Matters that Occupy the Attention of the State Legislature.

Special Correspondence.

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 13.

For the first time in thirty-three years all branches of the State Government are in the hands of the Democrats.

The political situation has taken place with less friction and animosity than could have been expected.

There has been a disposition on the part of outgoing officers to extend every courtesy, and make it easy for the incoming to take up the reins of government and guide the ship of State without obstruction and consequent detriment to the public service.

The opening of the Legislature was noted by the attendance of enthusiastic Democratic delegations from all portions of the state, and the crush at the reception of the incoming Governor was simply terrific.

Representative Minor, of Detroit, has given notice of one of the most important bills that will be considered by the present Legislature, and one that will attract general attention throughout the State.

The bill provides for the election of presidential electors by Congressional districts.

No law of the kind has been passed by any of the States, but Judge Minor, who has given the matter long study, believes that there can be no question of the constitutionality of such an enactment.

It is a measure, he says, which if once enacted on the Statute books would commend itself to the Democratic Legislatures in every State in the Union.

It would free the country from the West Coast oligarchy of New York millionaires, that has dictated the nomination of Presidential candidates.

The first notice of the introduction of a bill in the Senate has been given by Mr. Milnes. It provides for amendments to the general railroad laws relative to consolidations, sections 29 and 30 of Article II of the act entitled "An act to revise the laws providing for the incorporation of railroad companies and to regulate the running and management and to fix the duties and liabilities of all railroad corporations operating or operating any railroad in this State."

It is a renewal of the fight he made two years ago when the railroads knocked him out.

Senator Milnes has begun his old battle against the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Co. in the Senate by giving notice that he will introduce a bill to forfeit the charter of the road on the ground that it has exceeded the charter limitations.

If the Senator succeeds in making the bill a law, the Lake Shore will be brought under the graded railroad law, and the road will be compelled to charge two cents a mile for passenger travel.

Representative Minor will introduce a bill providing for the appointment of a stenographer to each of the five justices, thus relieving the latter of a great amount of clerical work.

The justices have been consulted about the bill, and say it will afford them much relief.

Representative Holton of Wayne introduced a bill providing for the exemption of mortgages from taxation, and repealing Act 247, laws of 1887, providing for the recording of mortgages in the office of the Register of Deeds.

Charles A. Bridgman has entered a protest in the Senate against re-appointing Benjamin C. Morse (Rep.), of Alpena, as the Senator from the Twenty-sixth District.

The protest was referred to a special committee composed of Senators Wheeler, McCormick and Mudgett. The basis of the protest is the irregularities occurring in the preparation of the ballot under the new election law which was in operation at the November election.

Morse is the "boy Senator," but says he can hold his own.

Chief Justice Strong has appointed Julius Brown and Aly Cohen, two of Detroit's brightest and most energetic newsmen, pages in the Senate.

This is a decided and refreshing innovation on the practice which has heretofore prevailed of giving these places to the sons of wealthy and influential Senators.

Speaker Wachtel has also declared against the questionable practice, and will distribute the messengerships at his disposal among deserving boys who need the salary.

Secretary of State Soper, who was himself once a newsboy, has used all his influence in behalf of the little street boys.

Speaker Pro Tem Richardson is preparing a bill to establish supervising control over the toll-road companies of the State.

It is a compromise between the State and the toll-road companies, and will be a cost of supervision, and compels the building of roads that are in conformity to the law, or else forfeiture of the tolls.

There is a diversity of opinion in regard to the recommendation of Governor Thayer to the confirmation of the State Game Warden, and this is not confined to either party.

More than \$8,000 have been collected in fines for violation of the law since it went into operation.

All kinds of game have rapidly increased, and it is regarded by many as one of the most wholesome laws the State has.

The sportsmen of the State agree that the game laws cannot be enforced except under the supervision of some officer who is clothed with proper authority, and who has the incentive to take on, and a strong motive to see to it that the recommendation of his excellency. A good deal of comment is also unfavorable to the abolition of the State Board of Health as recommended. There is no doubt that we have an abundance of State boards, but this particular one is recognized as the most efficient educator for the preservation of the public health, and it will not be sacrificed without some heroic action on the part of its friends to preserve it.

This is not the sentiment of many thinking people of all parties.

My dear cousin, I assure you I would never rob those sweet lips of a kiss—She—Oh! you hypocrite, didn't you make an attempt of that character the other day? He—Never. Far from having any intention of robbing you of a kiss, I was trying to give you one.

A RELIGION that teaches that you should love your enemies as much as your friends is lame.

A BRIGHT weapon—The ax of the apostles.

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE.

On the 13th, introduction of bills was the only business of both houses. They were as follows:

To abolish the State Board of Health, the State Board of Charities, the Office of Game Warden, and the State Board of Prisoners.

For any one to offer, or for any member to accept, a railroad pass, providing a penalty of \$1,000 to \$10,000, or six months to one year imprisonment, or both, to be imposed by a uniform system of school text-books, under State contract; to punish drunkenness by a fine of \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second, and a like system of fines for persons selling to intoxicated persons, with alternative of imprisonment; symptoms of drunkenness are defined, and a committee of two under oath shall pass upon the intoxication of persons arrested.

Adjourned.

On the 14th, the four Patrons of Industry in the Senate departed from their custom of voting with the Democrats and voted with the Republicans against a resolution to investigate the claims of the Democratic contest of the seat of the House of Representatives.

Bills were introduced in the Senate to create the Thirtieth Judicial Circuit; to fix compensation of Upper Peninsula members at \$3 per mile on all railroads; to amend the cumulative voting law of 1889; to prohibit the use of adulterated food in the State institutions; to make passenger fares two cents per mile on all railroads; to increase gross earnings reach \$1,500 per mile, and three cents for roads earning less than \$1,500; to revise the standard required for admission to the bar; a concurrent resolution to amend the State Constitution so as to fix the compensation of members of the Legislature at \$500 for the regular sessions and \$100 for special sessions, and prohibit the acceptance of railroad passes.

The first bill to pass the House was that providing for the Lansing Public Building site.

Speaker Wachtel, on the 15th, announced a standing committee of the House composed of one from each Congressional district, seven Democrats and four Republicans, to whom all matters referring to a rearranging of the Congressional and Representative districts will go. A bill was introduced fixing the legal rate of interest at 5 per cent, which may be increased by contract to 7.

In the Senate a bill was introduced creating the Thirtieth Judicial Circuit; the bill has passed the House.

The recommendations contained in the Governor's message were referred to several committees. The Senate Judiciary Committee has reported on the contest for the seats of Senators Horton and Morse was taken from the table and passed. Bills introduced in the Senate: To establish a State Board of Prisoners; to prohibit charging a traveling fee for returning legal processes by mail; to increase the legal rate of interest to 7 per cent; for making appropriations for the support of the Michigan Mining School; to exempt soldiers and sailors of the war of 1891 from the payment of taxes on the basis of the number of years of service; to amend the law holding more than one township office by the same individual; to regulate the making of abstracts of title and fixing compensation therefor.

Bills passed the Senate, the 16th, reading to the United States a site for a public building at Lansing and two bills of local importance. Bills were introduced approving the action of the Board of Prisoners in the case of the rebellion; prohibiting the holding of more than one township office by the same individual; making appropriations for the support of Michigan University and the State Normal School; making ten hours the legal labor day; to amend the law relating to the election of judges.

Reports of the clerical force in all the State departments, and the amount paid by assessment for political purposes in the campaign of 1890; requiring the State Treasurer to furnish a statement of State funds deposited in the State Treasury; to establish a State board of prison inspectors to control all the penal institutions in the State; to amend the law to exempt mortgages from taxation; to create a lien on railroads for labor and material furnished in construction. Both branches adjourned till the 19th.

California's Raisin Crop.

During the last year thousands of acres have been planted to raisin vines in all sections of the State of California, where soil, climate and temperature are conducive to the successful culture of the fruit.

In Fresno county alone 50,000 acres are devoted to raisin grapes, all of which will be in full bearing in about four years.

As a rule the crop from an acre is valued at \$200, so that in 1890 the product from one county will be worth \$10,000,000. This is a conservative estimate, as instances are known where under favorable circumstances and by careful cultivation one acre of Muscat vines has yielded \$250,000.

The raisin industry of California is rapidly becoming established all over the world, as testified to by the fact that the shipments to Australia and Canada are increasing from year to year, and that a market has been found for the goods even in London.

Longevity of Man and Animals.

Civilization, with its ameliorating and benign influences, has not only increased the longevity of man but has caused him to be merciful and kind to domestic animals, thus extending their usefulness and the period of their lives.

The mean term of human life has gradually increased in the last fifty years from thirty-four to forty years.

Of those who have attained the age of sixty-six, forty-three were theologians, forty farmers, thirty-five office-holders, twenty-seven professors, and twenty-four doctors in one thousand.

It will thus be seen that making bad men good and feeding the hungry are the most healthful vocations. If we would live we must work. The laborer has his reward.—*American Agriculturist.*

Cruel Manhood.

Mrs. Childwiler—Here's a person mentions "a blind man's repeater."

What is a repeater, Charley?

Mr. C.—You're a repeater. Now let me read my paper.—*Jeweler's Circular.*

Philanthropist—You asked me for a nickel to get something to eat with.

I gave it to you, and here you are drinking a glass of beer. Tramp—Yes, but wait till you see me get at the lunch counter.

It is asserted by men of high professional ability that, when the system needs a stimulant, nothing equals a cup of fresh coffee. Those who desire to rescue the dyspeptic from his cups will find no better substitute for spirits than strong, newly made coffee without milk or sugar.

Brown—They caught a fellow at the theater last night sneaking at the second box. Wonder what they'll do with him. Fogg—Don't know. Can't try him for defrauding a natural scenery; that's certain.

INCIDENTS THAT HAVE LATELY OCCURRED.

An Interesting Summary of the More Important Deaths of Our Neighbors—Weddings and Deaths—Crimes, Casualties, and General News Notes.

DR. HENNEAGE GIBBS, of Ann Arbor, who, in collaboration with Dr. Shurley, of Detroit, has discovered another "consumption cure," has had a romantic career. He is the son of a clergyman of the Church of England, who designed that his son should also do the cloth. The son had other views, however, and very early in life took to the sea. After many years in the British naval service he resigned his commission and entered the merchant marine, sailing in Eastern waters, chiefly between England and China and Japan.

His adventures in the East included numbers of wrecks and other half-bred escapades. At one time he found himself the commander of a Chinese gunboat. During our civil war he more than once saved the bigges from being captured by the rebels. Dr. Gibbs turned to medicine rather late in life, and has made a specialty of bacteriology and microscopic work. Dr. Gibbs holds a theory exactly antithetical to Dr. Koch's concerning tuberculosis, holding that the bacillus is not to be discovered in the affected tissue in the early stages of the disease. Unlike Dr. Koch, also, he seems reasonably confident of his remedy.

DETROIT has again been honored. Henry H. Swan has been appointed to succeed Judge Brown as the United States District Judge. He is the sixth Michigan man to hold that position.

O'DONNELL, SPECKER & Co. of Saginaw, saw manufacturers, have failed for \$100,000.

A LUMBER fire at Alpena amounted to \$8,000.

The National Wheel Association of Michigan has begun suit for \$100,000 from the Jacob Weiss Spoke Factory of Jackson for breach of contract. It is said to be a contest to the death between two trusts.

SOLOMAN W. YEAGLER, late County Clerk of Hillsdale County, who absconded last year with the county's funds, was sentenced to three years and three months hard labor in the penitentiary.

BURTON'S Day farmers are building docks, and will do their own shipping of fruit and potatoes. The town made 6,000,000 feet of hardwood lumber last year.

COREMISH is now an incorporated village, and has a newspaper.

The State Treasurer's report shows a balance on hand at the close of the fiscal year of \$1,151,230.

The boundary line between Michigan and Ohio, in the counties of Monroe and Leakey, is not well defined, and the counties affected will petition the Legislatures to settle the matter.

A CHILD of S. Titus, of Loomis, aged 4 years, while playing with fire, set his clothes on fire and it was fatally burned. One mile beyond Titus' place, Mr. Dunlap, who was driving a team, was struck by one of his internal injuries are fatal.

FREDERICK SCHWABER, of Bad Axe, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree. He killed his father last October.

An American express car was robbed between Chicago and Detroit, everything of value being taken. No clue.

DURING the season of 1890 there were manufactured by the seven Saginaw River mills 998,715 feet of lumber, 221,830,000 shingles, 129,731,000 pieces of lath. There are on the docks 337,207,157 feet of lumber, of which amount 63,000,000 feet are sold.

WILLIAM LLOYD, proprietor of the Lloyd House, dropped dead at Saginaw. He was 30 years old and single, and was a resident of Chicago, where he was in the employ of the Kalamazoo insurance company.

LESLIE COVRY is trying to work up a sentiment favorable to the annexation of the North and South Manitou Islands, and the people on those islands are unanimously in favor of the scheme.

COLD weather and show have facilitated handling logs, and all the Manitowish mills are running. All the salt blocks there have been shut down.

The State Agricultural Society has decided to issue only 200 complimentary tickets, besides five to each member of the Executive Committee. They will ask \$5,000 of the State to swell the premium list, and an indefinite amount to erect permanent buildings. If it can be done without forfeiting the money the fair will be discontinued in 1892—the year of the World's Fair.

A TRAMP was arrested in Bay City with \$65 and a cake of soap in his pocket. Fact!

The Seamen's Union, in session at Detroit, decided to withdraw from the Knights of Labor and form an independent society, which will amalgamate with the seamen's organization of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

The Superintendent of the Insane Asylum at Kalamazoo, Dr. George C. Palmer, resigned his position, and his resignation has been accepted.

Mrs. AMOS HANSON, while walking with her husband at Vicksburg, attempted to cross the track in front of an engine and was killed. She was 60 years of age.

ARTHUR MILNEAU of Detroit will get \$1,500 from a dime museum if he fasts forty-six days.

HARRY RICHARDS of West Bay City became despondent through loss of work and suicided.

OSCEOLA COUNTY will decide next April whether the county seat be removed to Reed City. That town offers \$12,000 real estate for the price.

CONDITION OF CROPS.

EFFECT OF THE WEATHER OF THE PAST MONTH.

Winter Wheat Holding Its Own—Snow Here and There—Sowing Covers the Crops—Considerable Freezing and Thawing Weather—Little Wheat Moving and the Flour Trade Dull—The Situation in Illinois, Indiana, and Other States.

(Chicago dispatch.)

Two years ago the present week the ground was full of moisture, frozen land and solid, and all the reports as to the general condition of the winter wheat at that time were of an encouraging character. The conditions of the corresponding week a year ago were, in the main, similar, with the difference that up to Jan. 20, 1889, the winter had been exceedingly mild, and even at that early date we were hearing a good deal of the development of insect life and an unnatural midwinter growth of winter wheat.

With the exceptions of some acres through Kansas and Missouri the winter wheat crop has been entirely bare of snow all winter. Then came our first widespread snow of the season, extending largely over the southern area of the winter wheat belt. At that time the reports as to the general condition of the winter wheat crop were conflicting, some areas reporting that the winter wheat never looked better, others stating that the midwinter had developed considerable insect growth, and that the wheat was rank and tender.

Both of these reports proved to be correct, and these were the causes no doubt which had so much to do with the partial failure of the winter wheat crop of 1890.

Northern Texas reports that the general condition of the growing wheat is good. That there has been very little if any snow this winter. Central Texas reports it is drawing its supplies of wheat from Kansas, and that the acreage this season of wheat in that section is small. In Southern Texas, owing to the good prices that farmers have obtained for their wheat, the acreage shown is a trifle larger than last year. There has been plenty of moisture and the crop is doing well.

Up to a week ago the condition of winter wheat in Kentucky was fairly good, but now that the snow has all gone and the weather has been cold at night, the earth full of water, with more or less freezing or thawing, there is quite a change in the general condition of the crop.

Tennessee reports that it has had no snow this winter, and plenty of rain. The wheat is generally in good condition. Mills hold but little if any wheat, and are drawing mainly on the North now for supplies.

In Northern Kansas the winter wheat has for the last week been covered with about two inches of snow. In Southern and Central Kansas until recently there has not been any snow on the ground except for two or three days since Dec. 1, and the crop all over the State was needing moisture badly. Little wheat is moving at present. In Northern Missouri the wheat looks fair, but needs more moisture.

In Central Missouri winter wheat had its first covering of snow Jan. 1. The general conditions of the crop in this area as compared with a year ago are not as good. The plants are smaller and the stand not so heavy. The ravages of the fly are much more apparent.

In Southern Illinois the wheat is bare. There is more complaint of fly than a year ago. The early winter has suffered considerably from frost. Freezing at night and thawing through the day is also having bad effect upon the wheat.

In Northern Indiana wheat has been "bare" nearly all winter. The plants, however, seem perfectly strong and healthy, and there is no complaint of fly. Farmers are generally holding their wheat, and only sell when they are obliged to. Considerable wheat is being shipped in. In Central Indiana wheat has not been covered with snow more than seven days since Dec. 1. Farmers are making practically no wheat in this section. It becomes more apparent that the shortage of the crop was fully as great as estimated. A great many of the country mills in this portion of the State are shipping in wheat from Michigan to supply their home trade.

The Indiana farmers have had no snow since Dec. 25. The wheat is looking brown, and is not as promising as last year at this date.

The reports from Southern Indiana are generally of a favorable character as regards the condition of the growing winter wheat. Farmers are still disposed to hold their wheat, and receipts for the last six weeks have been extremely light.

Up to the opening of the present week the winter in Michigan has been mild and the winter wheat has been practically bare of snow. The wheat generally looks better than it did last year at this time. Since Dec. 1 in Northern Ohio the wheat has been covered with snow about half the time. The crop is about holding its own. The general conditions are hardly as good as last year at this time.

WHEN business pursuits fill the whole horizon of life, and are separated from their higher connections, their pleasure and profit soon fade out. That which is material is but the lower half of an ideal life. As has been practically held merely as the lower half it may be well; otherwise it ends in failure. Grasp spiritual forces and they result in physical vigor.—Henry Wood, in "Edgar's Burton."

NINETY years ago the seven principal languages of Europe, English, French, German, Russian, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, were spoken by 162,000,000 people. Only 21,000,000, or 13 per cent, spoke English. Now these languages are spoken by 400,000,000 people; and 125,000,000 of them, or 31 per cent, speak English.

TAKE a quart of best vinegar, two ounces of lump sugar, two ounces of salt. Boil these together for a few minutes and, when cold, anoint with a brush the meat to be preserved.

The Avalanche.

O. PALMER, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1891.

Entered at the Post Office at Grayling, Mich., as second-class matter.

POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

State Convention.

A Republican State Convention to nominate a Justice of the Supreme Court in place of John W. Champlin, and two Regents of the University in place of Charles J. Willett and Arthur M. Clark, and for the transaction of other business, will be held at Assembly Hall, in the city of Jackson, on Tuesday, February 24, 1891, at 11 o'clock A. M.

In accordance with a resolution adopted at Grand Rapids May 10, 1876, every county will be entitled to one delegate for each 500 of the total vote cast for Governor at the last election (November, 1890), and one additional delegate for every fraction amounting to 300, but each organized county will be entitled to at least one delegate.

Under a resolution of 1888 no delegate will be entitled to a seat in the convention who does not reside in the county he proposes to represent.

In compliance with a resolution adopted in Detroit, June 23, 1880, the Secretary of each county Convention is requested to forward to the Secretary of the Central Committee, (Room 6 Butler Block, Detroit), by the earliest mail, after the delegates are chosen, a certified list of such delegates as are entitled to seats in the State Convention from their respective counties.

JAMES MCINTOSH, CHAIRMAN.
WILLIAM P. BATES, SECRETARY.

The Farmers' Alliance in the South is not a separate party. It must be remembered. It works within the Democratic party. —New York Sun.

Representative W. C. P. Breckinridge declares that "in all essentials it is still the same old South." The recent murder of a Southern postmaster because he was a Republican indicates that he is not far wrong.

The Postmaster-General Wainwright, has at the direction of the President abolished the Post Office at Cahaba, Alabama, because of the action of some of the citizens of that place in driving the republican postmaster away from his office.

Secretary Windom has decided, as he was compelled to under the present law, that the director of the Philadelphia mint was right in declining to coin a silver brick which was presented to him by the agent of several owners of silver mines.

Hon. George L. Yule has served notice that he will enter a contest for Congress in Burrows' seat. He charges illegal voting in Hartford, Connecticut. Another point on which he hinges his claim is that the election was not conducted according to law in the districts in which Burrows received his largest majorities. —Det. Journal.

The London Times announces that the Sheffield houses engaged in American trade are suffering greatly from the operation of the new tariff law. The large firms of Westinghouse, Rogers and others are contemplating a reduction in the wages of their employees. The Rogers firm say they believe that business has been curtailed one half since the new American tariff went into effect.

The Michigan crop report shows wheat in good condition, and only damaged slightly in some localities by the lack of snow. The total number of bushels reported marketed in December, 1,050,501, and in the five months, August-December, 7,730,372. This is 93 per cent of the crop of 1890. In the same months of 1889, 9,006,639 bushels were marketed, or 92 per cent of the crop of 1889.

The democratic editors should hold a caucus for the purpose of getting together in their ideas, particularly as regards the tariff. One of them says in his paper: "We talk a great deal about protection nowadays, but it is mostly bluff and bluncheon. The genuine article is not known to this generation of Americans," while another says: "The McKinley bill carries protection to an extreme never before dreamed of by its most radical advocates." Both of these editors cannot be right, in fact neither of them are, but the quoted language serves for specimens of the ignorance displayed in writing upon this very important subject. —Ec.

Pine Stump Lands.

Good farms have been made in the stump lands by both of the methods of cultivation suggested two weeks ago. Applying them separately, and under varying conditions, is profitable to the other, but the best success has been obtained by combining the two. The only objection to this method is the necessity for waiting for returns, as the land must be devoted to the business of raising fertilizing crops to be plowed under for a number of years.

This practically involves the third system, the three being as follows: 1—Sowing the ground to clover or a similar crop, to be plowed under successively, until the necessary change is made in the surface.

2—Applying absorbent chemicals to the surface until the desired result is produced, salt, combined with plaster of paris, or corresponding substance succeeded by the best.

3—Combining the above two by applying the chemical to the utmost limit while cropping to clover and plowing under, thus shortening the period of waiting for returns, while really producing a better, more effective top coat to the land than by either of the two first methods separately, and a coat that will be of a more permanent nature.

A different and more radical chemical change takes place by the union of the vegetable fertilizer plowed under with the salt and plaster, the freeing of certain gases due to the fermentation of the vegetable during the process of decomposition producing a desirable effect upon the plaster, the salt in the meantime rendering the soil susceptible to change by retaining the necessary moisture.

Each of these methods has its advantages. When the farmer has some clay land or pine land already subdued he can add to his arable lands by substituting his unseeded land to the first process for a number of years, at very small expense; as the only real outlay need be for clover seed, the work being mostly done "between times." Where time is no object and cost is, this is a very satisfactory method. It is also of value where the land is to be planted to orchard.

The second method is one that insures crops from the beginning, and though more costly to begin with is much cheaper in the end, as after the first year, the cost comes out of the crop, and it is much to be preferred where all the lands are stump land. The composite method is the one to be chosen, wherever possible, for its effectiveness, as heretofore explained.

All these plans presuppose the absence of stable manure, at least in effective quantities. But if may be stated here that if a fair quantity of barnyard or stable manure can be procured, it will produce much the same effect as clover in conjunction with the salt mixture, with the advantage that the land can be put into available crops at the very start. The more vegetable matter that can be applied the better.

Illustrations of the practical application of these methods as follows, will give the reader an idea of the effect of each, from which he can draw his own conclusions.

Says a gentleman from one of the eastern lake shore counties of Michigan: I own a large farm of which nearly two-thirds is old pine-stump land. The pine was cut a good many years ago, but until quite recently, I confined my farming to my hardwood land, which was not of the best. My house and buildings were just on the edge of the pine land, the highway running on that side. I had fenced the whole but only used it as pasture. The fire had run over it a good many times, and there was only a portion of it that had succeeded in making the second growth, some of which was pine and some hardwood.

Originally there was a good deal of cull timber left standing, which the fire had killed. I cut all this down and where good enough made it into staves. As I got time I logged the rest into piles and burned it, and burned out a good many of the stumps, especially the Norway, and so got the land cleared of everything but the second growth and there were no further fires, and the new growth began to look forest-like in places. But I had always intended to make some other use of the land, so had kept about 30 acres in front of my buildings pretty clear. Getting the rest of my land—that is, the hardwood part—pretty much all in cultivation, except a wood lot, I took hold of the pine land, and broke the whole 26 acres one fall and sowed it to winter rye and seeded it with clover. Both took well, and the next spring I set 10 acres of apple trees. I took a good crop of rye, and the next spring set 10 acres more to apples and at the proper time plowed the clover under, and seeded it all to clover again without the rye. This crop was again plowed under and all reseeded again, and I have continued this treatment, but did not set the third 10 acres to apples till two crops of clover had been plowed in, when I did so. This proved a very dry season, but the trees did remarkably well, and this last lot did best of all, notwithstanding the drought. Meantime I have cleared 35 acres more of the hardwood scrub and set 10 acres to pears, plums and cherries, making 40 acres in orchard and the 29 acres I am now cropping in the usual way as part of my tillage land, after treating it to three crops of clover plowed in.

"My orchard is doing well, and is already yielding returns, with no other fertilizer. I tried 10 acres to crops with the clover treatment, and though I used an ordinary amount of manure, I only got one good crop, as we had a succession of dry seasons. I have now put that, too, into clover. I think there is nothing like it, and shall clear all my pine land that has not a good growth of sapling pines growing on it, and shall treat it all that way. There is no reason why good farms should not be made of the pine stump lands of Michigan."

A farmer in a more northern and inland county says: "I had 320 acres, all but forty stump and plains land. I started in on the plains land in the ordinary way, but though I had a lot of manure from an old camp near by on the stump land, did not succeed very

well. I tried the stump land with rather better results, but not at all satisfactory. I was advised to try clover plowed under and did so on both plains and stump land. It was slow waiting for results, but they came at last and very satisfactory. I had planted an orchard that did not do well except in fairly wet seasons. I tried it to clover, and am satisfied it is the thing for an orchard. It keeps the land cultivated all that is necessary and enriches it at the same time. I had thought of giving up the whole farm that cost me \$4 an acre, but am glad I didn't. A man from over in the "thumb" told me about salt, and I scraped around and got a carload. I tried it alone, first on some new plains land, and next year on an old clearing that had been burned over about a dozen times. I got too much salt on park, but after the first year I got good results, and made up my mind that that carload of salt was the best investment I ever made. I went to experimenting with it and the clover, and was surprised at the results. Now my farm is not for sale. I am buying more plains land in preference to hardwood land. There is nothing the matter with making good farms of stump and plains land, if you only know how." If necessary, instances could be multiplied. Jacob Cummer has a fine pine land farm near Cadillac, Mich., and it is understood he employed all three methods. D. A. Blodgett, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has a fine farm on the Chum river, where he is seeking to convince the public that pine land can be farmed to a profit. It is also understood that he has adopted these theories to a modified extent, coupled with some of his own. Both of these gentlemen are doing a service to their state by their experiments, and it is a pity other lumbermen of means, owning stump lands, do not follow their example. The average settler is too poor to take a stump farm, and undertake to subdue it scientifically, and wait for results. But to the man of a little means, the stump and plains land presents the advantage of being made early ready for the plow. As pine land is cleared by the lumbermen today there is but little cull timber to burn, and but little fallen timber to remove. The shingle makers are doing the bulk of the clearing on lands logged after the wasteful methods of a score of years ago. If the wealthy owners of the lands would divide them up into farms, put up buildings and fences, and do the initial work of subduing the refractory soil in a scientific and intelligent manner, there would be no trouble in disposing of them afterwards.

For a time, and until better use can be made of them, many of these lands could be turned into grazing lands at a handsome profit, beyond a doubt. One of the unfortunate circumstances attending the Peters failure is the suspension of experiments in this direction, which he had undertaken. His aims were, however, more in the line of sheep raising, which would, undoubtedly, have been successful. The waters of the northern pine regions are so long and cold, with such deep snows usually, that it is doubtful if stock raising could be made profitable, but there is no doubt that summer grazing would pay well. When, even by reason of repeated burning or from other causes, the land is not covered too thickly by the scrub, or sapling growth, a rich grass springs up, becoming thicker and thicker every year, till it forms a perfect mat. This grass has many of the characteristics of the famous "blue-grass" maturing its seed in June, after which it forms a brownish green carpet, which stock will devour to the very roots.

As simple grazing lands, however, the peculiarities of this soil must be taken into account, and provision made for continuous feed through all sorts of summers, wet or dry, cool or hot.

To that end the first thing to be done is to put a stop to running fires. The land should be logged and the heavy rubbish piled and burned as for cultivation; all dead timber should be felled, of course, as a matter of safety to the stock if for no other reason.

The saplings of worthless varieties should be cut, and the thickets, thinned. To guard against drought, saline or other absorbent applications should be made to the surface, after which tame grasses should be sown in all open places and in all swales or moist ground. While clover takes kindly to the soil, and the large Dutch variety would be found of value. But all this would cost money, you say. Of course it would, but not a tithe to the cost of a cattle ranch in one of the mountain states or territories, while the feed would be vastly superior, the water unsurpassed, the cost of maintaining, after once well fenced with wire, much less, and a market right at the gate, when the season closed. Indeed there would be no reason why the cattle should not be slaughtered in the country, and shipped as dressed beef, thus adding valuable industries to the stump land states.

These papers have aimed to set forth the agricultural possibilities and value of the pine stump lands, more by way of suggestion than dogmatic theories, the suggestions being the result of chemical analysis, before, during and after the treatment of the soil by the various methods, and by actual experiments in cultivation. If they succeed in calling attention to a neglected field they will have served their purpose. —Northwestern Lumberman.

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1891

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A sample copy, with full particulars, will be sent to you on request.

Address, PETERSON'S MAGAZINE,

305 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The Avalanche.

J. C. HANSON, Local Editor.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1891.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Fresh Peppermint, at Wright's.

The Alpena factory will go into commission next week.

The Manistee First National bank has over \$300,000 on deposit.

Strictly Fresh Eggs, at Claggett & Pringles.

For both Sweet and Sour Apples, go to the store of S. H. & Co.

Fresh Oysters, always on hand, at the Restaurant of C. W. Wright.

Reuben Babbitt, of Jackson, was in town yesterday.

Buy your drugs and medicines of L. Fournier, registered pharmacist.

Geo. L. Alexander is on a business trip to Detroit, and Ann Arber.

Choice Roll Butter, at Claggett & Pringles.

O. Palmer is at Lansing, today, with the State Board of Agriculture.

Wright's restaurant is open day and night. Meals served at all hours.

The Third Michigan cavalry meet in reunion at Allegan, February 25.

Nice Evaporated Sweet Corn, at Claggett & Pringles.

Frank Bell has charge of the Post Office during the absence of the P. M.

Fresh Cakes and Crackers, always on hand at C. W. Wright's.

What did Eve say when Adam asked her for to give him a kiss? I don't care A-dam it I do.

Vermont Maple Syrup & Pure Maple sugar, at Claggett & Pringles.

The mills at Osceola and Au Sable cut about 300,000,000 feet of lumber last season.

Choice Candies from 12 to 35 cts. per pound, at C. W. Wright's Restaurant.

The Women's Relief Corps will meet at their hall, in regular session, at 2 o'clock, next Saturday afternoon.

Nice Select Candy, 12 cents a pound at C. W. Wright's.

Marvin Post, No. 240, Grand Army of the Republic, will meet next Saturday evening at the usual hour.

Bulk Oysters for Christmas at C. W. Wright's.

Mrs. F. F. Thatcher, who has had a severe attack of erysipelas is now able to put in appearance at table.

The best Teas & Coffees, in town, at Claggett & Pringles.

E. A. Fay, a former resident, is in the village shaking hands with old acquaintances. -Ros. News.

Park & Hazard make the best Men's Shoes in the market, and O. J. Bell sells them.

Laughlin Bros. are lumbering near Win. McMillen's camp on the South Branch. -Ros. News.

If you want good Shirting Flannels, call and examine the stock of Salling, Hanson & Co.

Pros. Atty. O. J. Bell went to Chicago, the first of the week, by way of Detroit.

When you go after your mail, just look at some of O. J. Bell's lines of Boots and Shoes. He can please you.

Why do girls kiss each other and men not? Because girls have nothing better to kiss and men have.

A few more of those very nice lamps, that will be sold cheap, at the store of S. H. & Co.

W. H. James and family, formerly residents of our village, now reside in Toledo, Ohio.

Do you know that your subscription to the AVALANCHE is past due? Come in with your \$8.

Ladies, clean your kid gloves with Mather's glove cleaner, for sale only at Fournier's Drug Store.

Comey and Sorenson filled their ice house this week, with the finest ice ever seen in this section.

Fine Cigars and Tobacco's, cheapest in town, at the restaurant of C. W. Wright.

W. Alger and wife returned from their visit to friends in Southern Michigan, last Friday.

The best line of Canned Fruit in town, California Fruit, a specialty. Call and see, at the Pioneer Store.

Our readers will remember that we have special clubbing prices with all the leading magazines and papers.

Ladies, Misses and Childrens' cloaks and a full line of Plush bonnets and caps, at Max Lewinson's.

Charron & Reed are pushing their business to the full capacity of their mill in Maple Forest.

If you want nice Vermont Maple Syrup, call at the Pioneer Store of S. H. & Co.

The university has 2,350 students registered for this semester, with more coming.

Ladies can save Money, by buying the famous Broadhead dress goods, at Claggett & Pringles.

Osceola & Au Sable are again talking consolidation. The people are about half and half on the question.

Dr. C. W. Smith has received the appointment of Surgeon for the Mich. C. R. B. at this place.

We have a small stock of Boys' Waists, that must be sold, and sold cheap, at the Pioneer Store.

A stock company will build an electric light plant and waterworks at Standish.

Do you want to buy a cloak for yourself or any of your girls, at your own price, call at Max Lewinson's.

S. H. & Co. are closing out their stock of Prize Coffee at reduced prices. Try it.

Chas. Silsby started hauling on his job near Houghton Lake on Wednesday. -Ros. News.

If you are in need of a good snow shovel, call and purchase one of S. H. & Co.

A gold vest chain was found, in the street some days ago and awaits the call of the owner, with T. G. High.

Carl Schmitt has moved to Chicago, where he will be engaged in the upholstery business, at which he is an expert workman.

Experienced and Registered Pharmacists on hand day and night to attend to the wants of my patrons. L. Fournier.

An unknown man jumped from the window of a Mackinaw City hotel the other night, and he will die from the injuries. It is thought he is insane.

None but the purest drugs and chemicals used in dispensing. Physicians prescriptions, and family recipes, at the lowest prices, L. Fournier.

Miss Josie Jones, who has been quite sick from inflammatory rheumatism, for the last two weeks, is reported to be improving.

Cloaks will be sold very cheap, at Max Lewinson's, next door to the Post Office, on account of being received too late for the season.

J. O. Hadley continues his improvements in health, which now promises to be permanent. His friends, and that means everybody, rejoice.

For novelties in Plush Caps for children, latest styles, which will be sold cheap, go to Max Lewinson's, next door to the Post Office.

A full line of Alfred Dolge's Felt Slippers and Shoes, constantly on hand, at the store of Salling, Hanson & Co.

Postmaster Jones is in Detroit this week, attending the Masonic Grand Lodge, as delegate from the Grayling Lodge.

Win. Pringle is attending the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Detroit, as delegate of Grayling Chapter, of which he is High Priest.

Mrs. D. M. Kneeland, accompanied by her brother, went to Grand Rapids, last Monday, to visit a sister in that city.

Max Taylor has taken charge of a section on the Bagley branch of the M. C. R. R. He was home Sunday, to play with the baby.

C. W. Wright is preparing to supply Grayling with Ice Cream next Summer, by putting up a large supply of ice.

Miss Musa and Daisy Havens are quite sick with inflammatory rheumatism. It is hoped that they will soon be better.

Mrs. A. Gfouléff, who has been quite sick, since the first, is improving, and her mother, Mrs. Dunlap, of Manistee, started for home yesterday.

Wagner Camp S. V. are arranging for a social at their hall, Friday evening, Feb. 6. Every body expected to enjoy a good time.

The ice harvest is in full blast, and the product was never more perfect. It is from 10 to 12 inches thick and is as clear as crystal.

David Trotter was at Toledo, Tuesday, attending a meeting of the wholesale lumber dealers. He represented the firm of Salling, Hanson & Co.

A man arrested at Bay City as a tramp and vagrant was discharged when he produced a cake of soap and \$65 from his inside pocket.

State Treasurer Maltz turned over to his Democratic successor the nice little sum of \$1,151,250 in hard cash as a "surplus" for him to worry over.

Mrs. D. M. Kneeland has been enjoying a visit from her brother, from Milwaukee. Report says that his sister is not the only attraction in Grayling.

Stephen Miles, a former resident here, and member of Marvin Post G. A. R., now residing at Horton, Jackson Co., has been granted an increase of pension.

The prohibitionists will meet in state convention at Jackson, Feb. 17-18. Two university regents and a justice of the supreme court will be nominated.

Eugene Thayer has secured a good position in the railroad office at Owosso. He has joined the Y. M. C. A. and expects to become a fixture in that thriving burg.

Many years practice has given C. A. Snow & Co. Patent Solicitors, Washington, D. C., unsurpassed success in obtaining patents. They have secured many patents on inventions that have been rejected in the hands of others. See their ad. in another column.

Mrs. Fred Robinson and her baby arrived here from Mayville, last Friday, to join her husband who has decided to locate adjoining Dr. W. Niles place, in Osceola county.

The Ladies Aid Society of the M. E. Church, will meet at the residence of Mrs. M. E. Hanson, next Thursday afternoon. Every member is expected to be present, as important business requires their attention. By order of the President, Mrs. N. Mickelson.

The articles, last week and this, on Pine Stamp Land, from the Chicago Northwestern Lumberman, are full of solid chunks of wisdom, and can be read with pleasure and profit by everybody in this part of the State.

The state agricultural society has just wound up its state fair business, and finds that the expenses were \$27,243, covered nicely by the receipts. The executive committee is now in session at Lansing, with the new president, John T. Rich, in the chair. -Det. News.

The Midwinter Number of the De-lin-eator has reached us, and is, if possible, finer than ever. Every department is full of the most perfect descriptions of garments, for street or home, for Children, Misses or Ladies. If you do not take it, order it of the Butterick Publishing Co., New York.

For every number is worth the price, \$1.00 a year.

Notwithstanding this is the dull season for hotel business, Messrs. Davis of the Grayling and Anderson, of the Commercial, report a very satisfactory trade. The fact is, our hotels are so managed that they draw custom, and many traveling men double the road to stop here, instead of putting up with inferior accommodations in other towns.

H. Pinkous has bought the interest of his son Louis in the dry goods and clothing business they have been conducting on Third street, and has concluded to remain in Cheboygan. The firm has done a good trade ever since they commenced business in the city. Louis went to Saginaw, Monday evening, to prospect for an opening, but we predict he will return to Cheboygan, thoroughly satisfied that it is the best town in the State. -Cheboygan Tribune.

PETERSON for February is in some respects an advance on the beautiful January number. The illustrations seem even more numerous, and the excellent opening article, "Among Japanese Marvels," displays a profusion of very effective ones. "The Sheriff of Oskaloos," by Howard Seely is one of the most spirited sketches we have seen from the pen of this popular author. "Minae Irving contributes a fine poem which is fully illustrated. "A Tardy Answer," by Katharine Allen, is a delightful story and has a number of fine illustrations. Another illustrated paper is "Filling Nooks and Corners," which gives such useful and clear explanations that the artist in house-keeping or furnishing can profit thereby. Miss McClelland's serial, "In The World," is a wonderfully realistic production, and Mrs. Lucy H. Hooper's "Queen of Diamonds" promises to be superior to any of her former efforts. There is besides various capital short stories and poems. The fashion plates and descriptions, needlework designs, table recipes and household directions are practical and useful. Terms, two dollars a year, with reduced rates to clubs. Address PETERSON MAGAZINE COMPANY, 200 Chestnut St., Philad'a.

"POKE OF DANCING." You would reply "Yes" to this question, of course, if you had already mastered that delightful art. No reason why you should not. Every detail of dancing the "Modern Society Dances" is so clearly described in the article on that subject by Mr. DeDworth, New York's greatest dancing teacher, and all the steps and motions of the newest dances so fully illustrated in DEMOREST'S FAMILY MAGAZINE for February, that a child can learn to dance without a master. A course at dancing school is expensive, but you can become a proficient dancer, with no outlay, by practicing as directed in these illustrated instructions. It was while dancing that Juliet won the love of her Romeo, although they later parted in sorrow, as shown in the exquisite full-page engraving of "Romeo and Juliet."

A Dream of Love, the second full-page picture, is a lovely Valentine offering, and charming counterparts of many beautiful and noble women illustrate the leading article, "Ladies of High Degree," including portraits of the Princess of Wales and her daughters, and the American beauties who have married into the English aristocracy. "Holding as Related to Art Industry" is artistically and profusely illustrated. The "Portrait Gallery" shows the handsome features of the new world-famous consumption-cure discoverer, Dr. Robert Koch; and "A Violet Luncheon" tells how to prepare and serve such an entertainment so as to have it in "good form." All the departments as usual, are crowded with subjects of timely interest; and in fact the subscribers to DEMOREST'S FAMILY MAGAZINE are always sure of getting several times their money's worth; for it combines a number of Magazines in one, and every family needs it. Published by W. JENNINGS DEMOREST, 15 East 14th Street, New York.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church, will meet every Thursday afternoon at Hempstead's hall-for work. All persons interested are cordially invited. Mrs. H. MASTERS, Pres.

For first class photographs call at S. E. Odell's Studio, opposite the court house. Views a specialty, prices reasonable and satisfaction guaranteed.

List of Letters Remaining in the Post Office at Grayling, for the week ending Jan. 18, '91:

Barber, Ella L. Lavanch, Richard Jensen, C. S. McLean, P. A. Kulmachi, H. 2 Perry, John Karmala, Gottie Tucker, James Karmara, Gottie Thompson, John

Persons calling for any of the above letters, will please say 'Advertised.'

J. M. JONES, P. M.

Bucklin's Arnica Salvo.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Lips, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by H. C. THATCHER.

A Scrap of Paper Saves Her Life.

It was just an ordinary scrap of wrapping paper, but it saved her life. She was in the last stages of consumption, told by physicians that she was incurable and could live only a short time; she weighed less than seventy pounds. On a piece of wrapping paper she read of Dr. King's New Discovery, and got a sample bottle; it helped her, she bought a bottle, it helped her more, bought another and grew better fast, continued its use and is now strong, healthy, rosy, plump, weighing 140 pounds. For fuller particulars send stamp to W. H. Cole, Druggist, Fort Smith, Ark. Trial bottles of this wonderful Discovery free, at H. C. THATCHER'S Drug Store, 4

Eupopsy.

This is what you ought to have, in fact, you must have it, to fully enjoy life. Thousands are searching for it daily, and mourning because they find it not. Thousands upon thousands of dollars are spent annually by our people in the hope that they may attain this boon. And what can be had by it? We guarantee that Electric Bitters, if used according to directions and the use persisted in, will bring you Good Digestion and oust the demon Dyspepsia and install instead Eupopsy. We recommend Electric Bitters for Dyspepsia and all diseases of Liver, Stomach and Kidneys. Sold at 50c, and \$1.00 per bottle by H. C. THATCHER, Druggist.

Cow for Sale.

I HAVE a fresh Milch Cow, 6 years old, which came in on the 6th of this month. Will sell calf with the cow. She gives from 15 to 20 quarts of milk per day. For further particulars inquire of T. E. Hastings, Wellington P. O.

For Sale.

I HAVE for sale 1 Self Binder, most new; 1 Moses' Platform Wagon; 1 Platform Wagon; 1 Wheel Harrow; 1 Grass Sower; 1 Feed Cutter; 1 Pair of Lumber Bobs; 2 Cook Stoves; 1 Heating Stove; a lot of Canteens and Chains, all for half price with time to suit the buyers.

Jan. 15, '91. G. W. WALTON.

Proposals for Wood.

SEALED Proposals will be received at my office until January 31, '91, for furnishing the county with 70 cords of green Tamarack wood and 15 cords of dry Norway wood. Wood to be 18 inches in length, and to be delivered on or before April 1, 1891.

THOMAS WAKELEY, Jan 15, '91. Sheriff of Crawford Co.

For Sale.

I WILL SELL any of my houses or lots on favorable terms. For particular information, call on

JOSEPH CHARRON, May 3, '91.

Gunsmith Shop.

I WILL open up the old blacksmith shop near the bridge, where I will make and repair guns and do other fine work in my line. Repairing of machinery a specialty. Terms reasonable. Give me a call.

H. B. WILLIAMS, Aug. 18th, '87.

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P. M. A. M.

Detroit, Iv. 6:40 a.m. 8:35 p.m.

Chicago, 4:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

P. M. P. M. A. M.

Bay City, 10:55 1:10 8:45

GRAYLING, Arr. 2:41 5:00 P. M. 1:56

GRAYLING, Dep. 2:40 5:25 P. M. 1:56

Mackinaw City, 6:30 A. M. 9:00 p. m. 8:10

SOUTH,

P. M. A. M. A. M.

Mackinaw City, 7:45 9:00 2:00

GRAYLING, Arr. 1:35 12:05 9:00

A. M. P. M. P. M.

GRAYLING, Dep. 1:55 12:25 2:30

Bay City, Arr. 6:55 4:40 7:35

Detroit, Ar. 11:35 a.m. 9:05 p.m.

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